

To whom it may concern:

I am writing in regards to the National Association of Broadcasters' (NAB) petition 04-160. It is my understanding that the petition aims at limiting what satellite radio providers can broadcast in terms of "local" information. Specifically traffic and weather. Irregardless, I whole-heartedly object to impairing any company from competing with another through the use of legislation.

It is in the public's best interest to allow satellite radio to compete with the NAB for local market share. Competition drives technology, quality of service, and price. It prevents the monopolization of industry, and in fact, by limiting what can be broadcast by satellite providers the government is, essentially, violating anti-trust laws by giving the NAB an unfair advantage.

Furthermore, it is, in principle, a slap in the face of every American's first amendment right. We have a right not only to be able to speak freely, but also the right to receive information freely. Limiting a provider of any service for the sole purpose of giving another provider of the same service exclusivity is a limitation of free speech. It is abhorant that such an activity is even being considered.

There can be no interest for the public good in prohibiting the broadcast of essential information such as traffic and weather. If for no other reason, information such as this should be allowed to be broadcast through any medium, so long as it is done in a legal, responsible manner.

As a paying subscriber to satellite radio, I urge the FCC to consider what would be in the public's best interest, and what is constitutionally responsible in making their decision regarding this matter. I made the choice to be a paying member of this service because of the limitations of radio broadcasting, not so much by regulation, but by complacency of the NAB. I do not feel it is fair and/or ethical to protect the NAB's ineterests by imposing unfair limitations on their competitors. I have taken the time to write to you because I am passionate about this subject, and hope that these words will not have been written in vain.

With regards,  
-Eric C. Morgan